



Informational Notes for EMDs and Local Officials

Bulletin #16 – August 20, 2002

Exercise Reporting Form on SEMA's Webpage

SEMA's Exercise Officer, Conne Burnham says Emergency Management Directors (EMDs) can find the exercise reporting form (EMERS Form 95-44) on the SEMA website. The form is in PDF format and can easily be downloaded. The form is compatible with the new federal EMERS exercising reporting software. The downloaded form can then be faxed or sent by mail to us for exercise requirement credit. If an EMD does not have access to the website, Area Coordinators are asked to download the form and send it to the EMD or refer the EMD to Conne.

All old copies of this form should be discarded, including the form from Texas. The EMERS Reporting Form 95-44 is the only form Conne will accept. A copy of the new form was mailed to each EMPG director earlier this year with all the EMPG requirements and reporting paperwork.

West Nile Virus Facts

The West Nile virus is now in Missouri. A St. Louis woman's death was attributed to the West Nile virus. West Nile encephalitis is an infection of the brain caused by West Nile virus. This virus commonly is found in Africa, West Africa and the Middle East. It is closely related to the St. Louis encephalitis virus. The most common way to get West Nile encephalitis is by a mosquito that was infected by birds carrying the virus.

Most West Nile infections are mild. The symptoms include fever, headache, and body aches, often with skin rash and swollen lymph glands. More severe infection may be marked by headache, high fever, neck stiffness, stupor, disorientation, coma, tremors, convulsions, muscle weakness, paralysis, and rarely, death. If you experience these symptoms, see your health care provider. There is no specific treatment. In more severe cases, intensive supportive therapy may include hospitalization, intravenous (IV) fluids, airway management, respiratory support (ventilator) if needed, prevention of secondary infections (pneumonia, urinary tract, etc.), and good nursing care.

There is no evidence that a person can get the virus from handling live or dead infected birds. However, avoid barehanded contact when handling any dead animals, including dead birds. Use gloves or double plastic bags to place the carcass in a garbage can.

Several things you can do to reduce your risk from becoming infected are eliminating mosquito-breeding sources (still water) in your yard by tipping over containers and getting rid of any standing water. Stay indoors at dawn, dusk, and in the early evening. Wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants whenever you are outdoors. And most importantly, use insect repellent that contains no more than 20-30% DEET for adults and less than 10% for children.

For more information, go to the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention webpage [www.cdc.gov].

"Crisis Intervention Teams" Are Forming

Missouri Office of Victim Assistance is forming regional crisis intervention teams for disaster or crime victims using the National Organization of Victims Assistance model. This group will have a series of regional meetings with SEMA Area Coordinators and Voluntary Agencies to discuss training and team formation. This is a resource to the Emergency Management Community. EMDs are welcome to become an active team member or board member. Mary Young of MOVA is a POC for more information at 417-532-8252 or Dante Gliniecki at SEMA 573-526-9132.

Revising Your Emergency Ops Plans?

EMDs are asked to send any revisions or updates of their Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP) to their SEMA Area Coordinator. The AC will make sure SEMA has the most current copy on file in both hard copy and on CD formats. Thank you.

S.A.R.A.A (Amber Alert) Activated in Valley Park

The July 26 abduction and murder of a six-year-old girl in Valley Park marked the first time St Louis County Police and the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) utilized the St. Louis Area Regional Abduction Alert (S.A.R.A.A. or Amber Alert). The plan is activated when specific criteria are met. It is an area wide alert utilizing the media. You can view the plan at the following website: www.bellevillepolice.org/saraa.htm

Missouri's DMAT Certified

The Missouri Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT) was recently certified by FEMA following a federal exercise assessing the capabilities of the Kansas and the Missouri teams. The DMAT team is made up of doctors, nurses and other health care professionals and can be called up as a federal resource during a catastrophic disaster. The team will have a memorandum of agreement with SEMA under the direction of the Department of Health and Senior Services.

Fire Chief George Named to 911 Board

St. Louis City Fire Chief Sherman George will become the newest member of the 911 Advisory Board at the next meeting on September 10 in St. Louis. The Advisory Board meeting is being held in conjunction with the Missouri APCO State Meeting. Chief George replaces Boone County Fire Protection District Fire Chief Steve Paulsell of Columbia.

19 Missouri Rural Communities Receive USDA Grants

The USDA announced 19 Missouri Rural Communities would receive Community Facilities Economic Impact Initiative Grants totaling \$553,460. The grants are given to eligible public entities, nonprofit corporations, or special purpose districts that submit projects. Communities with the lowest populations and lowest median incomes are given selection priority. The Communities receiving grants are:

Howell County Rural Fire Department #1 - new fire station; Clarkton Volunteer Fire District - upgrade fire equipment; Norwood Volunteer Fire Department - defibrillator and two fire trucks pumps; Knox County Promotional Council (Edina) - warning siren; City of Puxico - fire gear and equipment; City of Chaffee - fire safety gear and equipment; City of Crane - fire station addition; Milo Rural Fire Department - fire pumper and brush trucks; Powers, Inc (Unionville) - warning response system for Unionville, Livonia, Lake Thunderhead and Powersville.

The Essex Improvement Corporation - fire truck; Theodosia Area Volunteer Fire Department - fire station addition; Pemiscot County - nine warning sirens; Grovespring Area Volunteer Fire Department - fire truck; Iron County Ambulance District - ambulance and life saving equipment; Indian Lake Property Owners Assn (Cuba) - warning system; Steelville Community Development & Care Corp to renovate a building for the Head Start, Pre-school, and Parents as Teachers programs; Maries County - backup generator for the courthouse; and Village of Pendermon - install fencing for a sewage lagoon.

Area Coordinator Meetings Posted

- **Area A** Coordinator Rick Jordan - 10 a.m., September 5 at the Parks & Recreation Bldg., Belton.
- **Area B** Coordinator Bob Bailey – 6:30 p.m., September 24 at the Days Inn, Kirksville.
- **Area C** Coordinator Derek Lohner – 10 a.m. September 26 at the St. Louis County EMA, Chesterfield.
- **Area D** Coordinator Candy Adams – 10 a.m., October 9 at the Kimberling Inn, Kimberling City.
- **Area E** Coordinator Mark Winkler – 11 p.m., November 1, TBA.
- **Area F** Coordinator Tom LeComte – TBA
- **Area G** Coordinator Dennis Mobrice – 11:30 a.m., September 18, Hillbilly Junction Restaurant, Willow Springs.
- **Area H** Coordinator A. J. Lehman - 10 a.m., August 28, Clasbey Community Center, Savannah.
- **Area I** Coordinator Brenda Heidbreder – 10 a.m., September 12, Phelps County Courthouse, Rolla.

FEMA Announces 3rd Round Fire Grants

On August 8, FEMA announced that the following Missouri Fire Departments received grants in the third funding round. Department receiving grants for fire operations and firefighter safety were: Lemay Fire Protection District (\$131,769); Holt Community Fire Protection District (\$40,174); Otterville Fire Protection District (\$19,800); Brixey & Rockbridge Volunteer Fire Department (\$28,160); Logan Creek Fire Protection District (\$17,748) Canalou Rural Volunteer Fire Department (\$38,237) and Richwoods Fire Protection District (\$47,079). The Protom Volunteer Fire Department received \$81,000 for firefighting vehicle.

SEMA Using New Data Base

SEMA is now using Access database for EMDs, Elected Officials, Floodplain Managers, and LEPCs addresses, telephone and fax numbers and email addresses. The information is used for correspondence from SEMA, the area coordinators, and mitigation or disaster assistance grants or information, the SEMA newsletter and EMD bulletin distribution. With the upcoming November elections and the April city elections, Emergency Management Directors are asked to keep their Area Coordinator aware of all name changes. The information will then be incorporated into the Access Database.

Of particular interest is valid email addresses for every county and jurisdiction. During a disaster, damage assessment information to SEMA may be able to cut the time involved in getting a federal declaration. After a federal declaration, email will be used to notify both you and your officials about disaster assistance information. Many of you are receiving the EMD Bulletin via email. As postage and printing costs continue to rise, SEMA will turn to the Internet to relay more information to Emergency Management Directors.

Download Homeland Defense Journal #14

The *Homeland Defense Journal*. Issue 14 is now available at www.homelanddefensejournal.com. The Journal is in a PDF format. You can also download past issues from their archives. The issue includes articles on: Agriterrorism, Safeguarding American Borders, Capitol Hill Testimony, Homeland Defense Industry News, and more.

Nuclear Power Plant Ingestion Pathway Exercises

SEMA will be participating in a 50-mile ingestion pathway exercise for the Cooper Nuclear Power Station (Brownville, NE) across from Atchison County at the end of August. Next year, a 50-mile ingestion pathway exercise will be conducted for the Callaway Nuclear Power Plant (Reform, MO) in Callaway County.

Ingestion pathway exercises involve the local presiding commissioner(s) authorizing evacuation (simulated), setting up security to keep citizens from re-entering the impacted area, and re-entry and other protective actions for their citizens. SEMA will be working closely with the Department of Health and Senior Services, the Department of Natural Resources, the Department of Transportation radiological monitoring teams to take plant, soil and water samples around the plant and up to 50-miles from the plant to determine the size of the plume. After the plume has been established, the Department of Agriculture has a significant role in assuring the safety of milk, animals, produce and other agricultural products from the impacted counties. There is often significant play with the federal agencies that have a response role in the ingestion pathway exercise.

Dennis Mobrce, Area G Coordinator, Retires

Dennis Mobrce, Area G Coordinator retires effective September 1, 2002. Area G quarterly meeting on September 18 will be conducted by Brenda Heidbreder. A. J. Lehman at 573-526-9127 will be available to help EMDs in Area G with questions, planning, training, damage assessment or other questions until the new Area G coordinator is hired.